4635

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

Anemometer.
Associated Distributors
Boston, Mass.

Address Reply to
CHIEF, FOREST SERVICE
and Refer to
F(RF)
SUPERVISION
Meetings
(Fire Control Conference, 1954)

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

November 19, 1953

Regional Foresters
and Directors

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to our mimeographed circular of April 21, 1953, transmitting the Agenda of the Fire Control Conference, tentatively scheduled for February 15-24, 1954.

Because of the tightness of funds, reorganization of the Department, and related problems, the feasibility of holding this conference as planned has been given further study. The desirability of such a conference has been reaffirmed, but we have concluded that some modification in the arrangements is desirable in order to avoid undue conflicts and diversions that would likely result here and to reduce the time demands on most of the Regional Foresters and Directors.

These modifications consist of splitting the conference into two meetings consisting roughly of a technical meeting and a policy-action meeting. The first meeting is being planned for Ogden, the second for Washington.

The purpose of the first meeting is to explore the present situation in our fire control activities, study the analyses that will be presented and through panel discussions to develop recommendations for changes in present practices and policy.

The purpose of the second meeting will be to consider these recommendations with the Chief's staff and to discuss them in relation to over-all programs and policies with the purpose of reaching as many firm conclusions as possible.

There will necessarily be some overlap in the personnel attending the two meetings. Attendance needed at the first session, which will be the larger, will consist primarily of fire control and fire research men. At the second session the Regional Foresters and Directors will attend plus those who will be reporting on recommendations and conclusions from the Ogden session.

The technical or "specialist" session will be held at Ogden beginning February 15 at 8:00 A.M. and lasting through February 20. The Regional Foresters-Directors' session will be held in Washington. It will be a two-day session and will be scheduled as part of the Regional Foresters and

(Over)

2-Regional Foresters and Directors -11/19/53

Directors meeting presently planned for early spring.

The Agenda remains substantially the same, but a few changes in topics and topic assignments have become desirable with this change in plans.

Topic deletions and additions to the Agenda accompanying our memo of April 21 are as follows:

Deletions

(a) Subtopic B-3 "Fire Control Improvements," Major Topic I. Hence, Mr. Dean is not scheduled to attend the conference in Ogden.

(b) Major Topic V "PROTECTION PROBLEMS UNDER COOPERATIVE PROTECTION." Time will not be available at the conference either in Ogden or Washington for a discussion of this topic. Later, it may be desirable to call a meeting of eastern regional S&P and NFA fire chiefs for a thorough discussion of this subject. Hence, Regional Forester Connaughton, Godden and Diehl need not complete the preparatory work covering Major Topic V; nor will they be expected to attend the Specialist Session in Ogden.

(c) Major Topic VI "FIRE CONTROL PLANNING." Research aspects of this subject will be covered briefly under VI-C in the final Agenda. Hence, Regional Forester Lindh, Spaulding, Barrows and Buck can discontinue work on this topic.

New Topic

(a) At the request of the Western Regions, the topic "INTERREGIONAL USE OF ORGANIZED FIRE FIGHTERS AND FIRE OVERHEAD" has been added to the final Agenda. This is designated as Major Topic V in the revised Agenda. Mr. Williams (R-2) is assigned to present this topic at the Ogden Conference.

The remainder of the topics are essentially the same as those in the Agenda accompanying our circular of April 21.

Task Force Chairman - The Agenda of April 21 assigned chairmanship of all the various task forces to regional foresters and directors. Some changes are now desirable.

Regional Foresters and Directors previously designated as Task Force Chairman for Major Topics I, II, III and IV will continue to serve as chairman during the period devoted to preparation in advance of the Ogden session, and will also serve as discussion chairman when their topics are brought before the regional foresters and directors in Washington.

At the Ogden Conference Nelson (R-5) will serve as Acting Task Force Chairman for Hendee, Linstedt (R-6) for Stone, *McKennan (R-2) for Clark, and Spaulding (R-1) for Hanson for Major Topics I, II, III and IV, respectively. These men will also attend the Washington conference to assist the discussion chairman in presenting a digest of the conclusions and recommendations developed at the Ogden Conference.

*Regional Forester Clark will serve as Task Force Chairman in Ogden in place of McKennan if he can find time to attend the Ogden session. In the event Mr. Clark attends the Ogden session it will not be necessary for Mr. McKennan to attend the RF&D session in Washington.

Mr. Willaims (R-2) will serve as Discussion Chairman for Major Topic V of the final Agenda at the Specialist Conference in Ogden. However, it will not be necessary for him to attend the Washington session since Gustafson will lead the discussion on this topic at the RF&D Conference.

Regional Forester Olsen and Director Jemison will continue to serve as Task Force Chairman for their respective Major Topics at both the Specialist Conference in Ogden and the RF&D Conference in Washington.

As stated in our April 21 Circular written material should be forwarded to Washington through the Task Force Chairman by January 4; earlier if possible.

Changes in Assignments for Subtopics

(a) Major Topic I - "STOCK TAKING IN FIRE CONTROL MANAGEMENT"

Subtopic I-C-2 "The Project Fire Phase" has been assigned Mr. Collins (R-3) instead of Mr. Godden (W.O.)

(b) Major Topic II - "RELATION OF FIRE MANAGEMENT TO OTHER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WORK". No assignment changes have been made.

Subtopic II-A-3 "Water Management" - Since Mr. Bailey will be in Ogden he will be able to continue his assignment.

(c) Major Topic III - "PERSONNEL ASPECTS OF FIRE MANAGEMENT."

Subtopic III-A "Fire Training" has been assigned Mr. Walley (R-9) in place of Flock (R-4).

Subtopic III-C "Careers in Fire Management" has been assigned to Mr. R. B. McKennan (R-2) in place of H. D. Cochran of the W.O.

(d) Major Topic IV - "FIRE PREVENTION" - No change in subtopic assignments.

(e) Major Topic V - "INTERREGIONAL USE OF ORGANIZED FIRE FIGHTERS AND OVERHEAD" - replaces Major Topic V "PROTECTION PROBLEMS UNDER COOPERATIVE PROTECTION" of the April 21 Agenda. Mr. Williams (R-2) has been assigned this topic.

(f) Major Topic VI - "STOCK TAKING IN THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF FIRE CONTROL" designated Major Topic VII in the April 21 Agenda, replaces Major Topic VI "FIRE CONTROL PLANNING" which has been cancelled.

Subtopic VI-D of the revised Agenda "What are priorities in fire management . . . . " previously assigned to Mr. Tebbe is now assigned to Mr. Jemison.

(g) Major Topic VII - "FIRE FINANCING - ADMINISTRATION AND RESEARCH."

This was Major Topic VIII in the April 21 Agenda.

Subtopic VII-A "The Depreciated Dollar and Its Impact on the Strength of the Fire Control Organization and on Fire Research." The Fire Research part of this subject is now assigned to Mr. Cowlin (PNW) in place of Mr. Wyckoff of CAL. The assignment for the NFA Section of this sub-topic remains unchanged.

Subtopic VII-C - "Financial Needs for Adequate Protection and Implementation of an Adequate Fire Research Program." The NFA part of this subtopic is now assigned to Mr. Spaulding of Region 1 in place of Mr. Tebbe of Region 7. The Fire Research part of this subtopic is now assigned to Mr. Cowlin of PNW in place of Mr. Wyckoff of CAL.

The Final Agenda

The Agenda accompanying this circular is considered to be in final form. The comments and suggestions contained in the Agenda accompanying our circular of April 21 apply to similar Major and Subtopics contained in the final Agenda.

Attendance

a. Specialist Section of Fire Control Conference. The following men are requested to attend the Conference in Ogden.

Name	Region or Station	Name	Region or Station
B. L. Rasmussen	W.O.	M. A. Coonrod	4
I. C. Funk	W.O.	C. J. Olsen	4
C. A. Gustafson	W.O.	R. W. Bailey	INT

4635

5-Regional Foresters and Directors-11/19/53

Name	Region or Station	Name	Region or Station
A. W. Sump	W.O.	M. M. Nelson	5
A. A. Brown	W.O.	G. S. James	5
A. E. Spaulding	1	L. R. Thomas	5
C. K. Lyman	1	C. C. Buck	CAL
G. M. Jemison	NRM	K. W. Linstedt	6
J. S. Barrows	NRM	W. G. Morris	PNW
R. L. Williams	2	R. W. Cowlin	PNW
*D. E. Clark	2	A. R. Cochran	7
R. B. McKennan	2	R. M. Nelson	SE
M. H. Davis	3	A. W. Hartman	8
C. K. Collins	3	J. W. Walley	9
J. L. Sevy	4	J. A. Mitchell	IS
J. W. Mattison	4		

*If Regional Forester Clark can find time to attend.

Each individual scheduled to attend the Ogden session will arrange with Region 4 for hotel reservations.

b. The following men will attend the Fire Control Section of the Regional Foresters' and Directors' Conference when it convenes in Washington.

Nelson (R-5), Spaulding (R-1), Linstedt (R-6), Hartman (R-8), Cochran (R-7), McKennan (R-2) only if Regional Forester Clark is unable to attend the Ogden session, Rasmussen (W.O.), Funk (W.O.), Brown (W.O.), Nelson (SE) and Gustafson (W.O.)

We are taking the liberty of sending copies of the revised Agenda directly to all those having assignments. Please see that members scheduled to attend from your region or station are advised as to the time and place of the Specialist Conference in Ogden - also instruct those indicated under "b" above to attend the Fire Control Section of the RF&D Conference in Washington when it is held. Travel costs will be borne by the region or station concerned.

If there are any questions concerning the Agenda, please advise.

Very truly yours,

RICHARD E. McARDLE, Chief

By Howard Hopkins

Attachments - Copies of the
Final Agenda

4635

FINAL AGENDA

FIRE CONTROL CONFERENCE

SPECIALIST SECTION - 2/15-20, Ogden - General Chairman NFA Section Gustafson
" " Research " Brown
RF&D SECTION (Spring), Washington - " " NFA Section Cliff
" " Research " Harper

MAJOR TOPIC I - STOCK TAKING IN FIRE CONTROL MANAGEMENT

Task Force Chairman - Preparatory Stage - Hendee (R-5)
" Specialist Section, Ogden - Nelson (R-5)
" " " RF&D Section, Washington - Hendee (R-5)
Members - Specialist Section, Ogden - Buck (CAL), Barrows (NRM), Lyman (R-1), Nelson (R-5), Hartman (R-8), Collins (R-3), Davis (R-3).

Estimated Time: 8 hours 20 minutes
" " RF&D Section, Washington, 3 hours

Subtopic A. Protection results.

1. Resource losses and their overall significance.

Presentation - 30 minutes)
Assignment - Nelson (R-5)) Specialist Section - Ogden

2. Adequacy of fire protection as determined from a study of sample management units.

Presentation - 50 minutes) Specialist Section - Ogden
Assignment - Barrows, NRM)

Discussion of Subtopic A - Protection results

Chairman, Specialist Section - Ogden - Nelson (R-5)
Estimated Time: 2 hours

Chairman, RF&D Section, Washington - Hendee (R-5)
Presentation " " " Nelson (R-5)
Estimated Time - Presentation and discussion - 1 hour

Subtopic B. Trends in protection strength

1. Presuppression forces

Presentation - 30 minutes) Specialist Section - Ogden
Assignment - Davis (R-3))

(Over)

2. Mechanization of fire fighting.

Presentation - 30 minutes) Specialist Section - Ogden
Assignment - Hartman (R-8))

Discussion of Subtopic B - Trends in protection strength

Chairman, Specialist Section-Ogden - Nelson (R-5)
Estimated time: 1½ hours

Chairman RF&D Section, Washington - Hendee (R-5)
Presentation " " Nelson (R-5)
Estimated Time: Presentation and Discussion - 1 hour

Subtopic C. Effectiveness of suppression action.

1. The initial action phase

Presentation - 30 minutes)
Assignment - Lyman, R-1) Specialist Section-Ogden

2. The project fire phase

Presentation - 30 minutes)
Assignment - Collins (R-3)) Specialist Section-Ogden

3. Average size of MC and Lightning fires, number or percent of Class A and B and Class C, D and E fires, number or percent of extra period fires.

Presentation - 30 minutes) Specialist Section-Ogden
Assignment - Buck (CAL))

Discussion of Subtopic C - Effectiveness of suppression action.

Chairman, RF&D Section, Washington - Hendee (R-5)
Presentation " " Nelson (R-5)
Estimated Time: Presentation and discussion - 1 hour

MAJOR TOPIC NO. II - RELATION OF FIRE MANAGEMENT TO OTHER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WORK

Task Force Chairman - Preparatory stage - Stone (R-6)
" " Specialist Section, Ogden - Linstedt (R-6)
" " " RF&D Section, Washington - Stone (R-6)

Members - Linstedt (R-6), Morris (PNW), Spaulding (R-1), Sump (W.O.), Thomas (R-5), Bailey (INT.)

Estimated Time: Specialist Section, Ogden - 5 hours 40 minutes
" " RF&D Section, Washington - 3 hours

Subtopic A. Integration and correlation of fire control with other resource management work.

1. Silvicultural relationships.

Presentation - 30 minutes)
Assignment - Thomas (R-5)) Specialist Section-Ogden

2. Treatment of fuels.

Presentation - 50 minutes
Assignment - Linstedt (R-6)) Specialist Section-Ogden
Morris (PNW))

3. Water management.

Presentation - 40 minutes) Specialist Section-Ogden
Assignment - Bailey (INT))

4. Inaccessible areas - wilderness, wild and primitive areas.

Presentation - 30 minutes) Specialist Section-Ogden
Assignment - Spaulding (R-5))

Discussion of Subtopic A -

Chairman, Specialist Section, Ogden - Linstedt (R-6)
Estimated Time: 1½ hours.

Chairman, RF&D Section, Washington - Stone (R-6)
Presentation " " " Linstedt (R-6)
Estimated Time - Presentation and discussion - 2 hours.

Subtopic B. Standards of protection by management units

Presentation - 40 minutes) Specialist Section-Ogden
Assignment - Sump (W.O.))

Discussion of Subtopic B -

Chairman, Specialist Section, Ogden - Linstedt (R-6)
Estimated Time: 1 hour.

Chairman RF&D Section, Washington - Stone (R-6)
Presentation " " " Linstedt (R-6)
Estimated Time: Presentation and discussion - 1 hour.

MAJOR TOPIC NO. III - PERSONNEL ASPECTS OF FIRE MANAGEMENT

Task Force Chairman - Preparatory stage - Clark (R-2)
" Specialist Section, Ogden, *Clark (R-2) or McKennan (R-2)
" " " RF&D Section - Washington - Clark (R-2)

Members - McKennan (R-2), Walley (R-9), Rasmussen (W.O.).

Estimated Time - 3 hours.

*Clark if he can attend otherwise McKennan.

Subtopic A - Fire training

Presentation - 20 minutes
Assignment - Walley (R-9)

Subtopic B - Inspection

Presentation - 20 minutes) Specialist Section-Ogden
Assignment - Rasmussen (W.O.))

Subtopic C. Careers in fire management

Presentation - 20 minutes) Specialist Section-Ogden
Assignment - McKennan (R-2))

Discussion of Major Topic III

Chairman, Specialist Section, Ogden - "Clark (R-2) or McKennan (R-2)
Estimated Time - 2 hours.

Chairman, RF&D Section, Washington - Clark (R-2)
Presentation, RF&D Section, Washington - *Clark (R-2) or McKennan (R-2)

Estimated Time - Presentation and discussion - 2 hours.

*If Mr. Clark can attend Specialist Conference he should retain Chairmanship at Ogden, give presentation and lead the discussion at the RF&D Meeting.

MAJOR TOPIC NO. IV - FIRE PREVENTION

Task Force Chairman - Preparatory Stage - Hansen (R-1)
" Specialist Section, Ogden - Spaulding (R-1)
" " " RF&D Section, Washington - Hansen (R-1)

Members - Davis (R-3), Hartman (R-8), James (R-5)

Estimated Time - 3 hours.

Subtopic A. Statistical - Number of man-caused fires by major causes per million acres by regions and all national forests for a later period (1948-51) and an earlier period (1935-38).

Presentation - 30 minutes)
Assignment - Hartman (R-8)) Specialist Section-Ogden

Subtopic B. Is fire prevention being given the vigorous and effective attention it deserves?

Presentation - 30 minutes)
Assignment - Davis (R-3)) Specialist Section-Ogden

Subtopic C. Education efforts

Presentation - 30 minutes)
Assignment - James (R-5)) Specialist Section-Ogden

Discussion of Major Topic No.IV

Chairman, Specialist Section, Ogden - Spaulding (R-1)
Estimated Time - 1 hour 30 minutes

Chairman, RF&D Section, Washington - Hansen (R-1)
Presentation, RF&D Section, Washington - Spaulding (R-1)

Estimated Time - Presentation and discussion - 1 hour.

MAJOR TOPIC NO. V - INTERREGIONAL USE OF ORGANIZED FIRE FIGHTERS AND OVERHEAD

Presentation and discussion Chairman, Specialist Section, Ogden - Williams (R-2)

Estimated Time - 2 hours.

Chairman and discussion leader, RF&D Section, Washington - Gustafson
Estimated Time - 1/2 hour.

MAJOR TOPIC NO. VI - STOCK TAKING IN THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF FIRE CONTROL

Task Force Chairman, Specialist Section, Ogden - Jemison (NRM)

Members - Buck (CAL), Barrows (NRM), Jemison (NRM)

Estimated Time - 7 hours 40 minutes

Task Force Chairman, RF&D Section, Washington - Jemison (NRM)

Estimated Time - 3 hours.

2. Subtopic A. How do we stand in respect to men and facilities in Fire Research?

Presentation - 20 minutes)
Discussion - 30 minutes) Specialist Section-Ogden
Assignment - Buck (CAL))

4. Subtopic B. Proposed policy of concentrating more fundamental aspects of fire research. What supplemental provisions will be needed to give coverage?

Presentation - 30 minutes)
Discussion - 40 minutes) Specialist Section-Ogden
Assignment - Jemison (NRM))

1. Subtopic C. High spot review of how we stand in our technical knowledge and its application on the job.

Presentation - 60 minutes)
Discussion - 120 minutes) Specialist Section-Ogden
Assignment - Barrows, assisted by C.C. Buck)

3. Subtopic D. What are the priorities in fire management and what can be done to bring fire research into better balance with the action program?

Presentation - 60 minutes)
Discussion - 100 minutes) Specialist Section-Ogden
Assignment - Jemison (NRM))

Discussion of Major Topic VI - Specialist Section, Ogden - Under each subtopic as required - Chairman Jemison.

Presentation and discussion of Major Topic VI - RF&D Section, Washington - Chairman Jemison (NRM)
Estimated Time - 3 hours

MAJOR TOPIC NO. VII. FIRE FINANCING - ADMINISTRATION AND RESEARCH

Task Force Chairman, Specialist Section, Ogden - For NFA Olsen (R-4), For Research Cowlin (PNW).

Members, Davis (R-3), Nelson (R-5), Cowlin (PNW), Spaulding (R-1)

Estimated Time - 5 hours, 50 minutes

Task Force Chairman, RF&D Section, Washington - Olsen (R-4)
Estimated Time - 3 hours

Subtopic A. The depreciated dollar and its impact on the strength of the fire organization and on fire research

Presentation - 40 minutes
Assignment, NFA - M.H. Davis (R-3), Specialist Section-Ogden
Research - Cowlin (PNW)

Subtopic B. Improving financial management (FFF-P&M-Fire Coop.)

Presentation - 30 minutes)
Assignment - Nelson (R-5)) Specialist Section - Ogden

Discussion Subtopics A&B - Specialist Section, Ogden and RF&D Section Washington - Chairman Olsen (R-4).

Estimated Time - Specialist Section, Ogden - 2 hours.

Estimated time, presentation and discussion, RF&D Section - Washington, 1 hour.

Subtopic C. Financial needs for adequate protection and for implementation of an adequate fire research program

Presentation - 40 minutes)
Assignment - NFA, Spaulding (R-1)) Specialist Section-Ogden
Research - Cowlin (PNW))

Discussion Subtopic C, Specialist Section, Ogden and RF&D Section - Washington

Chairman Olsen (R-4) for NFA, Cowlin (PNW), for Research.

Estimated Time - Specialist Section, Ogden - 2 hours
" " presentation and discussion, RF&D Section, Washington, 2 hours.